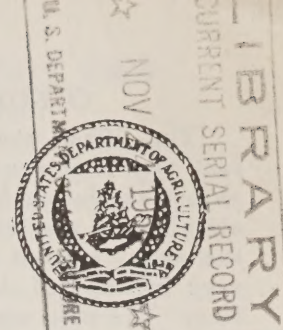


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Cooperative Crop Reporting Service



NO. 165

RALEIGH, N. C.

AUGUST 15, 1954

TOBACCO CROP IMPROVED

General rains occurred in the Coastal Plains counties during the first week of July and over most of the Old Belt area the following week. As a result of these rains the prospects for the tobacco crop was enhanced by approximately 71 million pounds. The rains were too late for many individual farms with early tobacco in the "Border Belt" counties but even in this section a 200-pound increase in yield to 1,400 pounds per acre is indicated. For Type 12, or

(Continued on Page 2)

COTTON REPORT

AS OF AUGUST 1, 1954

The first cotton report of the 1954 season forecasts a North Carolina crop of 400,000 (500-pound gross weight) bales. This forecast is based upon August 1 reports from growers, ginner, and others throughout the cotton growing areas of the State. Such a crop would be 49,000 bales below the 449,000 bales harvested last year and 106,000 bales less than the 10-year (1943-52) crop of 506,000 bales.

(Continued on Page 2)



Harvest of another good crop of tobacco is now well underway in the Tar Heel State. The above scene is from a well developed field of the golden leaf as it approaches maturity.

COTTON *(Continued)*

The 1954 crop is somewhat later than last year's crop as the unusually cool temperatures during May resulted in considerable loss of original plantings and more than the usual amount of replanting was necessary in many of the cotton producing counties. The crop made very little growth during May. However, plants generally are fruiting up heavily and weevil infestation has been considerably less than last year.

Lint yield per acre, is estimated at 333 pounds, compared with 278 last year and the average of 340 pounds.

The total United States cotton crop is estimated at 12,680,000 bales, compared with 16,465,000 bales harvested last season and a 10-year average crop of 12,448,000

bales. Total production is off sharply because of acreage reductions. However, forecast yields are higher than those harvested last year in all cotton States except Georgia, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

TOBACCO *(Continued)*

"New Belt" counties, yield prospects stood at 1,400 pounds compared with 1,300 pounds a month earlier. For Type 11 (Old Belt) counties, the prospective yield increased 75 pounds to 1,225 pounds per acre.

If current yield prospects in the flue-cured area are realized, the 1954 crop will amount to 913.8 million pounds-- 10 percent above the 1953 crop and 8 percent above

(Continued on Page 3)

COTTON. CONDITION, ESTIMATED ACREAGE FOR HARVEST AND PRODUCTION, AUGUST 1, 1954, ALL STATES

| STATE | Acres In Cultivation July 1, 1954 Less 10-Yr. Average Aban- donment <u>1/</u> | August 1 Condition | | | Lint Yield Per Harvested. Acre | | | Production <u>3/</u> 500-lb. Gro. Wt. Bales | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|------|------|-----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|--|--------|----------------------------------|
| | | Aver- age 1943- 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | Aver- age 1943- 1952 | 1953 | 1954 Indi- cated Aug. 1 | Aver- age 1943- 1952 | 1953 | 1954 Indi- cated Aug. 1 |
| | (<u>000 ACRES</u>) | (PERCENT) | | | (POUNDS) | | | (000 BALES) | | |
| N. C. | 577 | 79 | 79 | 82 | 340 | 278 | 333 | 506 | 449 | 400 |
| S. C. | 865 | 76 | 78 | 67 | 312 | 281 | 291 | 693 | 690 | 525 |
| Ga. | 1,116 | 72 | 75 | 62 | 252 | 262 | 219 | 705 | 752 | 510 |
| Tenn. | 660 | 76 | 85 | 77 | 357 | 354 | 375 | 544 | 702 | 515 |
| Ala. | 1,223 | 74 | 79 | 71 | 286 | 285 | 294 | 907 | 963 | 750 |
| Miss. | 1,921 | 76 | 84 | 84 | 336 | 410 | 412 | 1,664 | 2,129 | 1,650 |
| Mo. | 450 | 76 | 83 | 84 | 368 | 386 | 416 | 343 | 449 | 390 |
| Ark. | 1,690 | 75 | 80 | 77 | 332 | 358 | 369 | 1,343 | 1,548 | 1,300 |
| La. | 693 | 74 | 76 | 77 | 327 | 407 | 405 | 585 | 806 | 585 |
| Okla. | 941 | 73 | 85 | 65 | 152 | 205 | 143 | 385 | 437 | 280 |
| Tex. | 7,688 | 76 | 70 | 73 | 182 | 233 | 212 | 3,239 | 4,317 | 3,400 |
| N. Mex. | 205 | 92 | 89 | 95 | 498 | 497 | 550 | 195 | 327 | 235 |
| Ariz. | 414 | 92 | 93 | 97 | 555 | 743 | 870 | 387 | 1,070 | 750 |
| Calif. | 902 | 93 | 86 | 97 | 624 | 632 | 718 | 905 | 1,768 | 1,350 |
| Other States | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>4/</u> | 71 | 79 | 75 | 80 | 288 | 242 | 267 | 47 | 58 | 40 |
| U. S. | 19,416 | 77 | 79 | 78 | 272.1 | 324.2 | 313.5 | 12,448 | 16,465 | 12,680 |

1/ From natural causes. 2/ On acres in cultivation July 1 less 1944-53 average abandonment. 3/ Production ginned and to be ginned. A 500-lb. bale contains about 480 net pounds of lint. 4/ Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Nevada.

TOBACCO (Continued)

the July 1, 1954 forecast. Estimated flue-cured production by Types for 1954, with last year's production in parenthesis, is as follows: Type 11: 325,850,000 pounds (261,870,000 pounds); Type 12: 467,600,000 pounds (450,160,000 pounds); Type 13: 120,400,000 pounds (120,275,000 pounds).

Burley tobacco yield prospects also improved slightly during July and a crop of 19,980,000 pounds -- 3 percent short of the 1953 crop -- is now forecast.

WHEAT YIELDS SECOND HIGHEST OF RECORD

The State's wheat crop is now estimated at 6,794,000 bushels -- 17 percent below the 1953 production and 2 percent below the 10-year (1943-52) average production of 6,915,000 bushels.

Based on current reports the 1954 average yield per acre is placed at 21.5 bushels -- the second highest of record, being exceeded only by the 1951 yield of 23.0 bushels per acre.

Weather conditions during harvest were ideal and the crop was harvested with practically no loss due to unfavorable weather. Stands were below average due to unfavorable weather at seeding time but these were off-set to some extent by optimum growing conditions in the spring.

The estimated 316,000 acres harvested this year, except for the 1930 crop of 265,000 acres harvested, is the smallest since 1866. North Carolina growers harvested 400,000 acres last year and the 10-year (1943-52) average for the State is 416,000 acres. The reduction in acreage this year is attributed to wheat acreage control program which called for a 26 percent decrease in planted acreage.

N. C. PEACH PROSPECTS UNCHANGED

The August 1 forecast of peach production of 960,000 bushels is unchanged from July 1. This compares with the 1953 crop of 1,180,000 bushels and the 1943-52 average production of 1,649,000 bushels.

NEAR-RECORD APPLE CROP IN PROSPECT

A North Carolina commercial apple crop of 2,050,000 bushels for 1954 has been forecast, based upon indications as of August 1. If realized, this production will be only 3,000 bushels below the record crop produced in 1952 and more than double the 1953 crop of 873,000 bushels.

Cool weather in late May caused some damage to the crop and there have been some reports of fire-blight. The crop is sizing very good and is generally free from disease and insects as growers have been carrying out excellent spraying programs.

JULY MILK PRODUCTION SETS NEW RECORD

Milk produced on North Carolina farms during July 1954 was estimated at 174 million pounds -- the highest of record for any month. This record production compares with 167 million pounds produced during June 1954 and 164 million pounds during July 1953.

It is estimated that 391,000 milk cows (dry and in milk) were on farms during July, 1954 -- 2 percent more than the 383,000 estimated for July a year earlier. Average production per cow during July is placed at 446 pounds, compared with 428 pounds a year earlier. Condition of pastures on August 1 was reported as very poor but farmers were feeding mill feeds and concentrates at a record high rate per cow in herd.

JULY 1954 EGG PRODUCTION LOWER

North Carolina egg production during July, 1954, is placed at 106 million eggs -- 3 percent below the July, 1953, production and 8 percent below the 115 million eggs produced during the preceding month. The above decline from July 1953 is based upon a reduction of approximately 300,000 in the number of layers on North Carolina farms. The decline from the previous month reflects a normal seasonal decline in numbers of layers and average rate of lay. The average daily rate of lay for July, 1954, was 46.4 eggs per 100 hens, compared with 51.0 during June and 46.2 during July, 1953.

ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS, 1952 AND INDICATED AUGUST 1, 1954, NORTH CAROLINA

| CROPS | UNIT | ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS) | | | YIELD (IN UNITS) | | | PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS) | | |
|------------------------------|------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| | | Average 1943-52 | Harvested 1953 | Indicated 1954 | Average 1943-52 | 1953 | Indicated 1954 | Average 1943-52 | 1953 | Indicated 1954 |
| Corn, All..... | Bu. | 2, 220 | 2, 137 | 2, 137 | 27.9 | 27.0 | 27.0 | 61, 914 | 57, 699 | 57, 699 |
| Wheat, All..... | Bu. | 416 | 400 | 316 | 16.7 | 20.5 | 21.5 | 6, 915 | 8, 200 | 6, 794 |
| Oats..... | Bu. | 363 | 418 | 481 | 29.4 | 38.5 | 38.5 | 10, 749 | 16, 093 | 18, 518 |
| Barley..... | Bu. | 38 | 44 | 53 | 27.2 | 37.5 | 35.0 | 1, 035 | 1, 650 | 1, 855 |
| Rye..... | Bu. | 24 | 16 | 19 | 12.4 | 14.5 | 14.0 | 284 | 232 | 266 |
| Sorghums, All..... | - | 35 | 77 | 112 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sorghums for grain..... | Bu. | 4/ 18 | 59 | 86 | 4/26.5 | 24.0 | 28.0 | 4/486 | 1, 416 | 2, 408 |
| Tobacco: Flue-cured..... | Lbs. | 689.6 | 674.0 | 686.0 | 1, 171 | 1, 235 | 1, 332 | 808, 419 | 832, 305 | 913, 850 |
| Type 11..... | Lbs. | 269.2 | 258.0 | 266.0 | 1, 104 | 1, 015 | 1, 225 | 297, 774 | 261, 870 | 325, 850 |
| Type 12..... | Lbs. | 337.2 | 331.0 | 334.0 | 1, 219 | 1, 360 | 1, 400 | 411, 216 | 450, 160 | 467, 600 |
| Type 13..... | Lbs. | 83.2 | 85.0 | 86.0 | 1, 190 | 1, 415 | 1, 400 | 99, 429 | 120, 275 | 120, 400 |
| Type 31..... | Lbs. | 10.9 | 11.4 | 10.8 | 1, 540 | 1, 800 | 1, 850 | 16, 824 | 20, 520 | 19, 980 |
| Cotton..... | Lbs. | 718 | 782 | 1/577 | 340 | 278 | 333 | 5/ 506 | 5/ 499 | 5/ 400 |
| Irish Potatoes, All..... | Bu. | 69 | 46 | 40 | 134 | 133 | 156 | 9, 095 | 6/6, 118 | 6, 240 |
| Sweetpotatoes, All..... | Bu. | 56 | 45 | 40 | 106 | 105 | 105 | 5, 983 | 4, 725 | 4, 200 |
| Soybeans, Grown Alone..... | - | 400 | 397 | 413 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Soybeans, For Beans..... | Bu. | 254 | 263 | 289 | 13.8 | 14.5 | 15.5 | 3, 559 | 3, 814 | 4, 480 |
| Peanuts, Grown Alone..... | - | 286 | 184 | 175 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Peanuts, Picked & Threshed.. | Lbs. | 269 | 177 | 169 | 1, 139 | 1, 530 | 1, 485 | 300, 811 | 270, 810 | 250, 965 |
| Hay: All..... | Tons | 1, 270 | 1, 164 | 1, 224 | 1.01 | .98 | .99 | 1, 287 | 1, 145 | 1, 214 |
| Alfalfa Hay..... | Tons | 36 | 70 | 78 | 2.10 | 2.00 | 2.05 | 76 | 140 | 160 |
| Clover & Timothy 2/..... | Tons | 97 | 98 | 92 | 1.14 | 1.10 | 1.10 | 110 | 108 | 101 |
| Lespedeza Hay..... | Tons | 516 | 488 | 532 | 1.07 | .85 | .90 | 554 | 415 | 479 |
| Pasture Condition..... | % | - | - | - | - | - | - | 81 | 67 | 62 |
| Peaches..... | Bu. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1, 649 | 1, 180 | 960 |
| Apples, Commercial 3/..... | Bu. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1, 172 | 873 | 2, 050 |
| Pears..... | Bu. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 158 | 134 | 130 |
| Grapes..... | Tons | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.7 |

1/ Acres in cultivation July 1, 1954 less 10-year average abandonment from natural causes. 2/ Excludes sweetclover and lespedeza hay. 3/ Estimates of the commercial crop refer to the total production of apples in the commercial apple areas of each state. 4/ Short-time average. 5/ 500 lb. gross weight bales. 6/ Excludes 105,000 bushels commercial early potatoes not marketed.

ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS, 1952 AND INDICATED AUGUST 1, 1954, UNITED STATES

| CROPS | UNIT | ACREAGE (IN THOUSANDS) | | | YIELD (IN UNITS) | | | PRODUCTION (IN THOUSANDS) | | |
|------------------------------|------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| | | Average 1943-52 | Harvested 1953 | Indicated 1954 | Average 1943-52 | 1953 | Indicated 1954 | Average 1943-52 | 1953 | Indicated 1954 |
| Corn, All..... | Bu. | 85,820 | 80,279 | 80,164 | 35.7 | 39.6 | 35.2 | 3,057,464 | 3,176,615 | 2,824,078 |
| Wheat, All..... | Bu. | 66,025 | 67,608 | 53,726 | 17.0 | 17.3 | 18.2 | 1,121,506 | 1,168,536 | 1,977,537 |
| Oats..... | Bu. | 39,526 | 39,358 | 41,980 | 33.3 | 30.9 | 36.4 | 1,316,359 | 1,216,416 | 1,529,283 |
| Barley..... | Bu. | 10,960 | 8,534 | 12,883 | 25.3 | 28.2 | 28.9 | 274,955 | 241,015 | 372,648 |
| Rye..... | Bu. | 1,867 | 1,382 | 1,706 | 11.9 | 13.0 | 13.7 | 22,149 | 17,998 | 23,293 |
| Sorghums, All..... | - | 13,681 | 12,397 | 18,489 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sorghums for grain..... | Bu. | 7,254 | 6,137 | 8,938 | 18.2 | 17.8 | 15.2 | 134,600 | 109,022 | 135,726 |
| Tobacco: All..... | Lbs. | 1716.8 | 1634.2 | 1631.8 | 1,183 | 1,259 | 1,290 | 2,033,432 | 2,057,221 | 2,105,021 |
| Flue-cured..... | Lbs. | 1028.8 | 1021.8 | 1039.0 | 1,164 | 1,245 | 1,280 | 1,199,981 | 1,272,200 | 1,330,402 |
| Burley..... | Lbs. | 452.5 | 422.7 | 396.3 | 1,234 | 1,348 | 1,376 | 558,923 | 569,868 | 545,247 |
| Cotton..... | Lbs. | 22,428 | 25,244 | 19,416 | 272.1 | 324.2 | 313.5 | 5/ 12,448 | 5/16,465 | 5/12,680 |
| Irish Potatoes, All..... | Bu. | 2138.3 | 1508.3 | 1380.9 | 202.3 | 247.8 | 249.5 | 409,027 | 373,711 | 344,581 |
| Sweetpotatoes..... | Bu. | 547.1 | 349.7 | 345.5 | 92.9 | 97.2 | 89.5 | 50,637 | 33,974 | 30,939 |
| Soybeans, grown alone..... | - | 13,523 | 16,085 | 18,825 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Soybeans, for beans..... | Bu. | 11,559 | 14,366 | 17,329 | 19.9 | 18.3 | 17.5 | 230,649 | 262,341 | 303,577 |
| Peanuts, grown alone..... | - | 3,424 | 1,882 | 1,914 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Peanuts, picked & threshed.. | Lbs. | 2,762 | 1,514 | 1,513 | 742 | 1,031 | 838 | 1,979,865 | 1,588,415 | 1,267,950 |
| Hay, All..... | Tons | 74,629 | 73,918 | 75,984 | 1.37 | 1.42 | 1.33 | 101,959 | 105,300 | 101,216 |
| Alfalfa..... | Tons | 16,196 | 20,269 | 22,716 | 2.21 | 2.19 | 2.02 | 35,759 | 44,374 | 45,955 |
| Clover & Timothy 2/..... | Tons | 22,208 | 20,761 | 19,717 | 1.41 | 1.44 | 1.33 | 31,236 | 29,851 | 26,131 |
| Lespedeza..... | Tons | 6,521 | 4,653 | 5,174 | 1.05 | .89 | .76 | 6,851 | 4,129 | 3,915 |
| Pasture Condition..... | % | - | - | - | - | - | - | 82 | 72 | 59 |
| Peaches 3/..... | Bu. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 66,596 | 64,473 | 62,103 |
| Apples, Commercial 4/..... | Bu. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 105,802 | 92,877 | 101,521 |
| Pears..... | Bu. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 30,466 | 29,081 | 29,151 |
| Grapes..... | Tons | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2951.1 | 2696.0 | 2652.0 |

1/ Acres in cultivation July 1, 1954 less 10-year average abandonment from natural causes. 2/ Excludes sweetclover and lespedeza hay. 3/ Production includes some quantities unharvested on account of economic conditions. 4/ Estimates of commercial crop refer to the total production of apples in the commercial areas of each state. 5/ 500-pounds gross weight bales.

N. C. PEANUT PRODUCTION DOWN

The smallest acreage of peanuts for picking and threshing in 31 years and the smallest production since 1949 is in prospect for 1954. The 1954 acreage for picking and threshing has been placed at 169,000 acres -- 4.5 percent below 1953 and 37 percent below the 10-year average acreage of 269,000 acres.

Extremely cool, damp weather at planting time retarded the crop considerably and caused heavy replanting in many areas. However, the crop has grown fast and as of August 1, yield prospects were very good. Yield is expected to average 1,485 pounds per acre -- 3 percent below last year's yield and 105 pounds below the record yield in 1952.

Total production is estimated at 250,965,000 pounds for 1954 -- 7 percent below last year's production and the smallest production since 1949. For the Nation, total production is forecast at 1,268 million pounds, about 20 percent less than last year's crop of 1,588 million pounds, and 36 percent below the 10-year average of 1,980 million pounds.

NORTH CAROLINA SOYBEAN CROP

Based on reports from growers, as of August 1, the 1954 soybean crop is estimated at 4,480,000 bushels. This is 17.5 percent more than the 1953 crop of 3,814,000 bushels.

The August 1 indicated yield per acre of 15.5 bushels compares with 14.5 bushels last year.

Total U. S. soybean production is estimated at 303,577,000 bushels, an increase of 15.7 percent over the 1953 crop.

INCREASE IN N. C. SORGHUM GRAIN

The 1954 North Carolina sorghum grain acreage is estimated at 86,000 acres. This is 46 percent more than the 1953 acreage, of 59,000 acres.

August 1 reports from growers indicate a crop of 2,408,000 bushels. This is 70 percent more than the 1953 crop of 1,416,000 bushels. The indicated average yield per acre of 28 bushels is four bushels greater than the 1953 yield.

The current U. S. sorghum grain crop is estimated at 135,726,000 bushels with an indicated yield per acre of 15.2 bushels.

PROSPECTIVE CORN PRODUCTION

On the basis of condition reports from growers as of August 1, the State's 1954 corn production is set at 57,699,000 bushels. A crop of this size would be the same as that produced in 1953 and 7 percent below the 10-year (1943-52) average production of 61,914,000 bushels.

The average yield per acre for the current crop is forecast at 27.0 bushels, the same as the 1953 average yield and 3.2 percent below the 10-year (1943-52) average yield of 27.9 bushels.

Extended dry weather, along with abnormally high temperatures, has damaged the corn crop in most areas of the State. This has been especially true in the eastern counties where the crop was at the tasseling and silking stage of maturity when the drouth set in.

RECORD OATS PRODUCTION

An oats crop of 18,318,000 bushels is forecast for 1954 on the basis of August 1 reports from growers. This is by far the largest crop ever produced in North Carolina, being 15.1 percent above the 1953 production and 72.3 percent above the 10-year average production of 10,749,000 bushels.

Growers harvested 481,000 acres for grain this year, 63,000 more than in 1953. The increased production is due entirely to this acreage increase, as average yield is estimated at 38.5 bushels per acre for 1953 and 1954.

IRISH POTATO PRODUCTION UP

Based on reports received from growers as of August 1, a potato crop of 6,240,000 bushels is in prospect for 1954. This is an increase of 2 percent over the 1953 production but is 31 percent below the 10-year (1943-52) average production of 9,095,000 bushels.

If current yield prospects materialize, growers will harvest 156 bushels per acre from the 1954 crop. This compares with an average yield of 133 bushels for 1953 and the 10-year (1943-52) average yield of 134 bushels. The higher yields reflect favorable weather during the growing season and during the peak harvest season for the State's commercial crop.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR JULY, 1954

July was a warm dry month in North Carolina. Although a number of cool weather fronts moved down across the State, the number of days with moderate temperatures was exceeded by the number of unseasonably warm days. Rainfall averaged below normal for the State as a whole although one or two places along the outer banks had rainfall totals almost double that usually expected in July. On the 10th-12th days a small storm moving northeastward along the coast of the Carolinas gave moderate to heavy rains to most coastal areas. A cool weather front moving southward out of the Virginias gave heavy general showers to most sections on the 15th or 16th; in many areas it was the first general rain in 4-5 weeks. The first five days during the month were hot and dry and the last several days followed the same pattern.

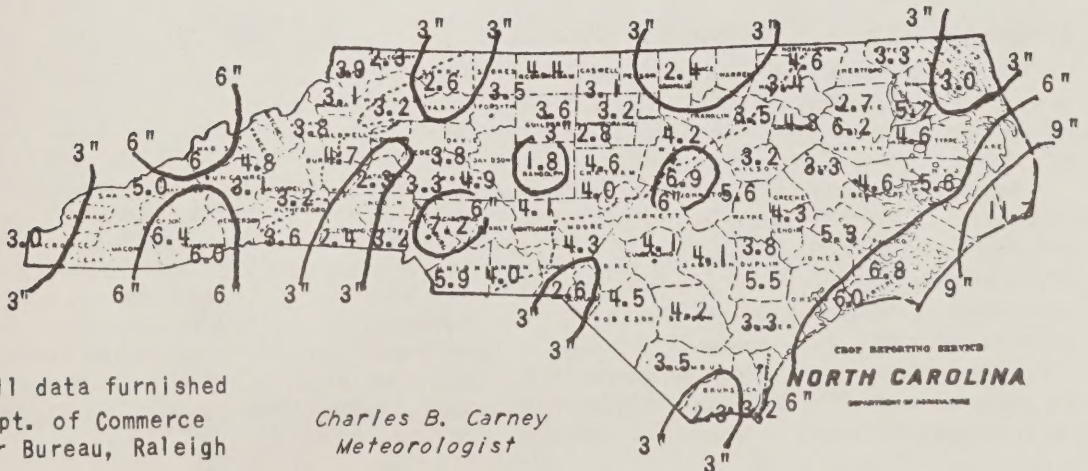
Temperatures were generally in the 90's for the first several days followed by more moderate readings from the 3d through the 9th. The storm of the 10th-12th gave moderate readings in the 80's to most sections. Hot air from the southwest returned on the 13th, and on the 14th maximum temperatures 100 degrees or higher were observed at practically every station between the beaches and the mountains; the mercury rose to 105 at Statesville and to 108 at Reidsville. Temperatures were more moderate from the 15th through the 17th followed by rising

temperatures on the 18th. Southerly wind flow persisted and by the 20th the mercury had climbed into the 90's at most places and to 100 degrees or higher at some locations. Temperatures were more moderate from the 21st through the 27th followed by temperatures generally in the 90's for the remainder of the month.

A cool front set off scattered thunderstorms on the 5th and some damaging hailstorms occurred during the afternoon and evening in several of the central and northern counties. The weather front which entered the State on the 9th set off showers in most sections, but generally the showers were too light to improve soil moisture conditions appreciably. The 10-12th days were dry over most sections while an offshore storm was giving heavy showers to coastal areas. On the 15th and 16th only light showers fell on the mountains while most other areas had moderate to heavy downpours. Showers fell here and there over the State from the 17th through the 22d. The weather was generally fair and dry in most sections for the remaining days of the month.

Average rainfall over the State was about two inches below long-time averages for the month. Most of the immediate coast and a few inland places had normal or greater rainfall, but dry weather prevailed over the greater part of the State.

NORTH CAROLINA, INCHES OF RAINFALL, JULY, 1954



FARM REPORT

Compiled by authority of
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION DOWN

A 1954 sweetpotato crop of 4,200,000 bushels is estimated on the basis of August 1 reports from growers in North Carolina. Such a crop would be 525,000 bushels or 11 percent below production in 1953 and 30 percent below the 10-year (1943-52) production of 5,983,000.

The 1954 crop will be harvested from 40,000 acres as compared with 45,000 harvested in 1953.

If August 1 prospects materialize, yield per acre will average 105 bushels, such a yield would be the same as that realized in 1952 and 1953.

The crop has benefited greatly from recent rains and although some producers experienced considerable difficulty in getting their 1954 crop set, the crop is now generally in good condition.

HAY CROP PROSPECTS DECLINE

The State's hay crop prospects declined during the month of July. Many parts of the State received adequate rain during the month of July but soils in large portions of the Piedmont and Mountain areas on August 1 were short of moisture needed for good hay crops. Reported condition of Alfalfa, Lespedeza and "other hay" were lower than on July 1 and lower yields per acre are now expected for these kinds than was the case a month earlier.

The August 1 forecast of production is placed at 1,214,000 tons of all hay--5 percent below the July 1 prospects but still 6 percent above the short 1953 hay crop. The above production for 1954 if realized would be 6 percent below the 1943-52 average production for the State.